GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, HEALTH AND LANDS.

New Delhi, the 26th November 1932.

PRESS COMMUNIQUE.

The Government of India have received information from Messrs. Turner, Morrison & Co., Ltd., Bombay, that the Company have decided to announce the following special sailings of pilgrim ships after the month of Ramzan :—

From Bombay ... S. S. "Rizwani" or other steamer to sail from Bombay to Jedda direct not later than the 14th February 1933.

From Karachi ... S. S. "Rahmani" or other steamer to sail from Karachi to Jedda direct not later than the 14th February 1933.

From Calcutta ... S. S. "Alavi" or other steamer to sail from Calcutta to Jedda direct not later than the 2nd March 1933.

2. The steamers and sailing dates are announced only provisionally. The Company will make every effort to keep to the programme but retain the liberty to make such alterations and adjustments in it as appear necessary.

3. In addition to the special sailings mentioned above, the Company will, as usual, have frequent ordinary sailings from now onwards. They have already declared their first sailing, *viz.*, S. S. "Akbar" to sail from Bombay not later than the 1st December 1932, and from Karachi not later than the 5th December 1932.

4. The maximum pilgrim fares which Messrs. Turner, Morrison & Co., have fixed for the coming season will be the same as for the last season and are given below :—

From Bombay and Karachi to Jedda.

	Single		*Return*	
	With food	Without food	With food	Without food
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1st Class ...	450	375	650	550
2nd Class ...	350	300	525	450
Deck ...	140	110	215	160

From Calcutta to Jedda.

	Single		*Return*	
	With food	Without food	With food	Without food
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1st Class ...	500	400	800	600
2nd Class. ...	400	325	650	500
Deck		135	...	205

5. The Company reserve the right to revise these fares if any additional burdens are placed on the trade in complying with fresh requirements as a result of new legislation.

6. If a pilgrim is not in possession of a return ticket, the sum to be deposited by him in pursuance of clause (b) of Section 208A of the Indian Merchant Shipping Act, 1923, to defray the cost of a return journey is Rs. 50, if he sails from Bombay or Karachi, and Rs. 70, if he sails from Calcutta.

7. The Government of India are considering a proposal, that, in the interests of pilgrims, the existing system under which pilgrims make their own arrangements for landing and the transport of their luggage at Jedda from ship to shore and *vice versa* should be discontinued and that a new arrangement should be introduced by which the shipping company will undertake responsibility for the transport in return for a fixed charge over and above the fares mentioned in paragraph 4. Pending a final decision in the matter, the Company have been authorised provisionally to collect, on account of the transport charges, an extra sum of Rs. 8 per return ticket and Rs. 1-8-0 per single ticket along with the price of the tickets.

8. It has been estimated for the ensuing Haj season that the minimum cost of pilgrimage (including a visit to Medina) to a pilgrim who proceeds to Jedda as deck passenger and travels on a camel in the Hejaz would be approximately Rs. 570, and substantial addition to this figure would be necessary, if the pilgrim chooses to adopt more comfortable means of locomotion and a higher standard of living. No pilgrim, not even the hardiest and poorest, should, therefore, start on the pilgrimage unless he has provided himself with at least Rs. 570. In the case of a pilgrim travelling second class on board the ship and in a motor bus in the Hejaz the cost is estimated to be Rs. 1,228. If he travels first class on the ship and uses a touring motor car for journeys in the Hejaz, the expenditure would be about Rs. 1,710. Local Governments have been asked to give publicity to the details on which these estimates are based and which give as complete a picture as possible of the various kinds of expenditure which a pilgrim will have to incur. The current rate of exchange has been adopted in framing these estimates in Indian currency, but it should be remembered that the rate may fluctuate before and during the pilgrimage.

CLASSIFIED.

TENTATIVE ESTIMATE OF COST OF PILGRIMAGE TO MECCA AND VISIT TO MEDINA IN A.H. 1351—1933 A.D.

*Calculated for three different grades of pilgrims.

Expenditure	1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
I. In India and on voyage ..	745 8 0	595 8 0	218 0 0
II. Official dues in the Hejaz ...	47 0 4	47 0 4	47 1 8
III. Cost of travel in the Hejaz			
To Mecca only ..	68 12 0	50 6 8	42 6 8
To Medina also ...	275 0 0	183 5 4	105 6 8
IV. Miscellaneous expenses			
At Jedda and Mecca only ...	439 6 8	250 11 4	104 12 0
At Medina also	134 9 0	96 8 0	52 0 0
Total ...	1,710 8 0	1,223 7 8	569 11 0

Tentative Estimate of Cost of Pilgrimage to Mecca and Visit to Medina in A.H. 1351—1933 A.D.

Calculated for three different grades of pilgrims.
(See Note (*a*) at end.)

N.B.—One pound gold—110 Piastres Miri.
At the current (October 1932) rate of exchange 110 Piastres Miri—Rs. 18-5-4; but this rate is liable to fluctuation.

Item	Official Hejazi Tariff	Equivalent cost in rupees at current rate		
		1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade
	Piastres Miri	By car	By bus	By camel
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
A. Expenditure in India:—				
1. Preliminary expenses, say		25 0 0	15 0 0	10 0 0
2. Railway fare from home to port of embarkation and return. This of course depends on the distance. Maximum for 3rd grade—Rs. 25, Minimum—Re. 1 Average, say. ...		65 0 0	50 0 0	15 0 0
B. Expenditure on Voyage:—				
3. Steamer fare (return ticket) from Bombay or Karachi without food (See Note (*b*)). ...		550 0 0	450 0 0	160 0 0
4. Food on board, say		100 0 0	75 0 0	30 0 0
5. Sanbuq hire at Jedda on arrival and departure, inclusive rate collected with fare by Shipping Company. ...		3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0
6. Motor-launch hire at Jedda on arrival and departure, say. ..		2 8 0	2 8 0	..
C. Expenditure in the Hejaz—				
(1) Pilgrimage to Mecca only:—				
7. Unloading of luggage from sanbuq to quay.	3	0 1 0	0 1 0	0 1 0
8. Porterage of luggage from quay to lodging.	4	0 10 8	0 10 8	0 10 8

Items	Official Hejazi Tariff	Equivalent cost in rupees at current rate :		
		1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade
	Piastres Miri	By car	By bus	By camel
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
9. House-rent at Jedda on arrival at 1½ Pts. per night for first 8 nights and 1 Pt. per night thereafter; normal maximum stay 4 nights.	5½	0 14 8	0 14 8	0 14 8
10. Fee for Jedda Wakil on arrival ...	18	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0
11. Fee for Naqib and his assistant ...	3	0 8 0	0 8 0	0 8 0
12. Municipal dues on each shuqduf @ Pts., 1½ *i.e.*, per person.	5	...	...	0 1 4
13. Door-keeper's charge ...	1½	0 1 4	0 1 4	0 1 4
14. Miscellaneous expenses at Jedda, say.	...	10 0 0	5 0 0	2 8 0
15. Cost of storing unwanted luggage with Wakil, say.	...	1 0 0	0 8 0	0 4 0
16. Payment to servant accompanying pilgrims from Jedda to Mecca and from Mecca to Jedda.	2	0 5 4	0 5 4	0 5 4
17. Camel-hire from Jedda to Mecca, per camel Pts. 110, *i.e.*, per person.	55	...	...	9 2 8
18. Shuqduf-hire from Jedda to Mecca per person.	31	...	...	5 2 8
19. Camel-hire from Jedda to Mecca for transport of luggage, per camel.	110	18 5 4	...	...
Camel-hire from Jedda to Mecca for transport of luggage, per ½ camel.	55	...	9 2 8	...
20. Sundry expenses during the halt at Bahra, say.	...	...	...	1 0 0
21. Motor-transport from Jedda to Mecca by bus, per person.	£1 gold	...	18 5 4	...
22. Motor-transport from Jedda to Mecca, by car, per person.	£1½ ,,	27 8 0	...	...
23. Cab-hire from Mecca motor station to lodging, say.	...	3 0 0	2 0 0	...
24. Porterage of luggage on arrival at Mecca and departure.	5	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4
25. For upkeep of Ain Zubeyda ...	8	1 5 4	1 5 4	1 5 4
26. Zamzem fee (but Malabari, Sindhi, and Afghan pilgrims may pay what they like.)	11	1 13 4	1 13 4	1 13 4
27. Fee for numbering houses at Mecca.	5	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4
28. Fee for head Mutawwif ...	12½	2 0 8	2 0 8	2 0 8
29. Accommodation at Mecca, if provided by Mutawwif.	65	...	...	10 13 4
30. Accommodation at Mecca, if pilgrims make their own arrangements, which they are free to do, say.	...	42 0 0	21 0 0	...
31. Tent-hire at 'Arafat and Mina', if provided by Mutawwif.	25	...	...	4 2 8
32. Tent-hire at 'Arafat and Mina, if pilgrims make their own arrangements, which they are free to do, say.	...	16 0 0	8 0 0	...

Items	Official Hejazi Tariff	Equivalent cost in rupees at current rate;		
		1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd Grade
	Piastres Miri	By car	By bus	By camel
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
33. Mutawwif's gratuity (but Malabari, Sindhi, and Afghan pilgrims pay only Pts. 102-17.0.0).	187	31 2 8	31 2 8	31 2 8
34. Camel-hire to 'Arafat and back, including hire of shuqduf for 2 persons, per camel Pts. 165, *i.e.*, per person.	82½	18 12 0	18 12 0	18 12 0
35. Extra camel-hire to Arafat and back for luggage, say.	...	18 12 0	6 14 0	...
36. Miscellaneous expenses at 'Arafat, including water, etc., say.	1	12 0 0	8 0 0	4 0 0
37. Cost of sacrificial sheet at Mina, say ...	...	20 0 0	10 0 0	5 0 0
38. Miscellaneous expenses at Mina, say ...	...	12 0 0	9 0 0	6 0 0
39. Maintenance expenses for at least 1½ months at Mecca, say.	...	135 0 0	90 0 0	45 0 0
40. Camel-hire from Mecca to Jedda, per camel Pts. 110, *i.e.*, per person.	55	...	...	9 2 8
41. Shuqduf-hire from Mecca to Jedda, per person.	31	...	...	5 2 8
42. Camel-hire from Mecca to Jedda for transport of luggage, per camel.	110	18 5 4	...	...
Do per ½ camel ...	55	..	9 2 8	...
43. Sundry expenses during the halt at Bahra, say.	...	..	...	1 0 0
44. Cab-hire from lodging to Mecca motor station.	...	3 0 0	2 0 0	...
45. Motor-transport from Mecca to Jedda by bus, per person.	£1 gold	...	18 5 4	...
46. Do by car, per person ...	£1½ gold	27 8 0	...	...
47. Gratuity to Wakil at Jedda on return	5	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4
48. Porterage of luggage on return from house to sanbuq.	2	0 5 4	0 5 4	0 5 4
49. House-rent at Jedda on return at 1½ Pts. per night for first 8 nights and 1 Pt. per night thereafter; normal minimum stay 7 nights.	8½	1 6 8	1 6 8	1 6 8
50. Miscellaneous expenses at Jedda on return, say.	...	15 0 0	10 0 0	5 0 0
51. Presents and gifts which have to be purchased even by the poorest pilgrims, say.	...	80 0 0	40 0 0	20 0 0
52. Medical attention, say ...	...	40 0 0	20 0 0	...
Total cost of Pilgrimage to Mecca only.	...	1,299 13 8	942 13 0	411 7 0
Total cost of visit to Medina also (see below)	...	410 5 4	280 10 8	158 4 0
Grand Total ...	...	1,710 3 0	1,223 7 8	569 11 0

Items	Official Hejazi Tariff	Equivalent cost in rupees at current rate:					
		1st Grade		2nd Grade		3rd Grade	
	Piastres Miri	By car		By bus		By camel	
		Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.	
C. Expenditure in the Hejaz—							
(2) Visit to Medina also :							
53. Camel-hire from Jedda to Medina and back to Jedda or Mecca, or from Mecca to Medina and back to Mecca or Jedda, per camel Pts. 1100, *i.e.*, per person (but camel-hire for single journey to Medina is Pts. 990 per camel, *i.e.*, Pts. 495 per person).	550	...		...		91 10 8	
54. Shuqduf-hire for above journey, per shuqduf Pts. 165, *i.e.*, per person.	82½	...		...		13 12 0	
55. Motor-transport for above journey, by bus, per person.	£10 gold	...		183 5 4		...	
56. Motor-transport for above journey, by car, per person.	£15 „	275 0 0		...		...	
57. Sundry expenses on the road during the journey, say.	...	10 0 0		7 0 0		5 0 0	
58. Muzawwir's fee and house-rent at Medina, not fixed, but say.	...	30 0 0		20 0 0		10 0 0	
59. For upkeep of 'Ain az-Zarqa' ...	5	0 13 4		0 13 4		0 13 4	
60. Local taxes at Medina, say ...	...	2 0 0		2 0 0		2 0 0	
61. Expenses in connection with visits to tombs and shrines, say.	....	20 0 0		10 0 0		5 0 0	
62. Maintenance allowance for one month for those travelling by camel, and for 15 days for those travelling by motor-transport, say.	...	45 0 0		30 0 0		30 0 0	
63. Pilgrims going to Medina by motor-transport, who wish to stay there longer than the prescribed period of 8 days, must pay extra as follows:—							
From 9th to 20th day ...	137½						
From 21st to 30th day ...	165						
From 31st to 40th day ...	220						
Average, say ...	165	27 8 0		27 8 0		...	
Total cost of the Visit to Medina also ...	...	410 5 4		280 10 8		158 4 0	
(See Grand Total on page 62							

NOTES.

(*a*) There are three modes of travel in the Hejaz (1) by car holding 4 or 6 passengers, (2) by bus carrying from 13 to 17 passengers, and (3) by camel normally carrying 2 persons in a litter (shuqduf).

(*b*) The return steamer-fare without food for pilgrims travelling by sea from Calcutta is

	Rs.
For 1st class	600
For 2nd class	500
For deck class	205

The following information has been published by the Hejazi Government :—

(*c*) Any foreign coin will be accepted from pilgrims at the market rate on the day of payment, if they have no gold coin.

(*d*) On pilgrims arrival at Jedda and on demand of the Mutawwif, they must pay to his Wakil at Jedda the fixed dues and fees, with the exception of rents and transport charges which will be paid as and when they become due, according to whether pilgrims wish to perform their visit to Medina from Jedda before they go to Mecca or after.

(*e*) Fixed dues and fees once paid will not be refunded under any circumstances.

(*f*) The period of travel to Medina by car will not exceed three days and by camel twenty days.

(*g*) Certain pilgrims prefer to remove the roof of the bus when wearing Ihram; in such a case the pilgrim will have to pay half an English gold pound for this purpose.